Power situation in Maharashtra

2852. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra could face electricity shortage of 11,000 MW over the next five years, if no capacity addition is undertaken;

(b) whether according to the State Chief Minister, demand-supply gap in power in that State, excluding Mumbai, would reach 11,000 MW by the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(c) whether Government have taken a number of steps to meet the demand of additional power through some projects that are on the verge of completion; and

(d) whether Government are confident that total capacity of 6,425 MW would become available in stages, starting from 2009 to 2012?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) During the Chief Ministers' Conference held in May, 2007, a reference was made that demand and supply gap in Maharashtra excluding Mumbai is likely to increase to about 11,000 MW by the end of the Eleventh Plan if no capacity addition is undertaken; it was further indicted that a capacity of 6,425 MW would become available in stages starting from 2009 till 2012.

According to the 17th Electric Power Survey of India Report, the peak demand in the State of Maharashtra by the end of the Eleventh Plan is expected to be 21,954 MW. Electricity is a concurrent subject. An all-India generation capacity addition of 78,577 MW has been envisaged for the Eleventh Plan to meet the projected all-India demand, consisting of projects in the Central, State and private sectors. The actual surplus/shortage position in each State would therefore depend upon the generation capacities that get commissioned. However, in addition to the proposed generation capacity addition, the inter-State transmission capacity is also being augmented by the Central Government to enable inter-State transfer of power.

Setting up of power sector reform fund

2853. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to set up a power sector reform fund, which would be funded by the Central and the State Governments and such fund would help kick-start the reform process at the State level;

(b) whether the fund would help the States to meet the cost of restructuring and minimizing its impact;